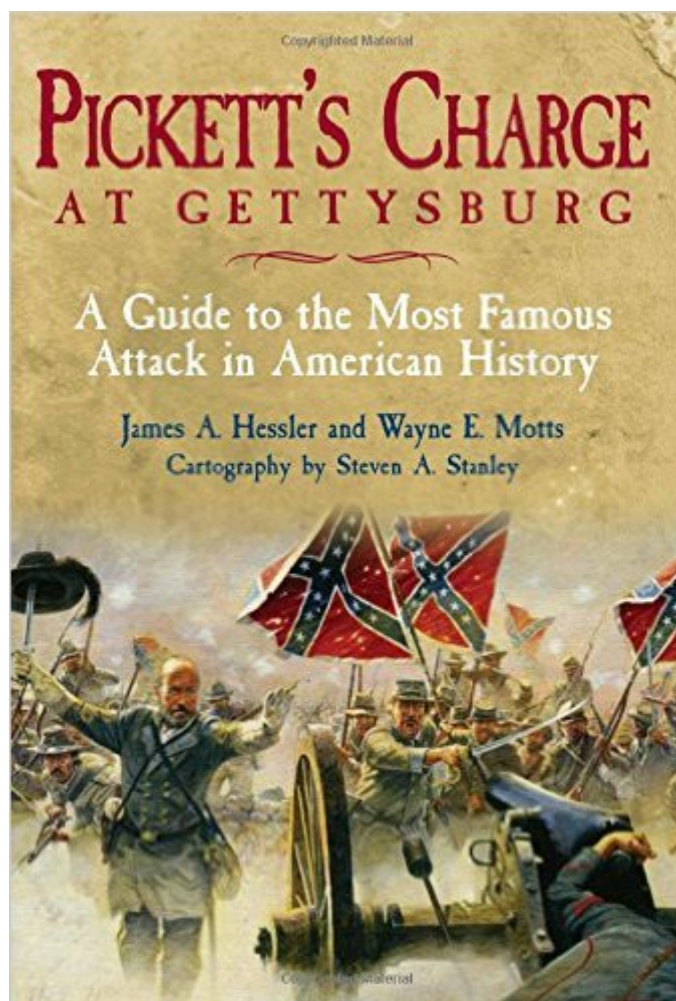


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# Pickett's Charge At Gettysburg: A Guide To The Most Famous Attack In American History



## Synopsis

More than 150 years after the event, the grand attack against the Union position on Cemetery Ridge still emotionally resonates with Gettysburg enthusiasts like no other aspect of the battle. On the afternoon of July 3, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee ordered more than 12,000 Southern infantrymen to undertake what would become the most legendary charge in American military history. This attack, popularly but inaccurately known as "Pickett's Charge," is often considered the turning point of the Civil War's seminal battle of Gettysburg. Although much has been written about the battle itself and Pickett's Charge in particular, *Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg* is the first battlefield guide for this celebrated assault. After the war, one staff officer perceptively observed that the charge "has been more criticized, and is still less understood, than any other act of the Gettysburg drama." Unfortunately, what was true then remains true to this day. The authors of this book—two of Gettysburg's elite Licensed Battlefield Guides—have teamed up with one of the Civil War's leading cartographers to unravel the mysteries of this attack. Grounded in the premise that no better resource exists for understanding this unique event than the battlefield itself, *Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg* encourages its readers to explore this storied event from a wide variety of perspectives. For the first time, readers can march toward the Copse of Trees with Armistead's Virginians, advance from the Confederate left with Pettigrew's North Carolinians, or defend the Angle with Alonzo Cushing's gunners and thousands of Union soldiers. There is much here to enrich the experience, including dozens of full-color original maps, scores of battlefield and other historic photographs, a unique mix of rare human interest stories, discussions of leadership controversies, a full Order of Battle, and a rare collection of artifacts directly related to the charge. *Pickett's Charge at Gettysburg* is designed for readers to enjoy on or off the battlefield, and will give Civil War enthusiasts an entirely new appreciation for, and understanding of, Gettysburg's third day of battle.

REVIEWS "...extremely well done... designed as a tour guide to the area of the battlefield where the famous July 3 1863 Confederate assault on the center of the Union Line took place...the heart of any tour guide is maps, and that feature is served up in exemplary fashion here..far more than just maps. The two text authors are battlefield guides and the detail provided is immense.. strongly recommended Civil War News "Students of the battle will love this thoughtful, balanced, and fascinating exploration of Pickett's Charge. The authors leave no aspect of this famous attack untouched, and their insightful analysis and vast knowledge of the subject make this a book not to be missed by anyone with an interest in Gettysburg." — D. Scott Hartwig, former Chief Historian for Gettysburg National Military Park, and the author of *To Antietam Creek: The Maryland Campaign of September 1862*

• This exciting new tour guide delivers far more than a standard walking tour of the advance of Pickett's Virginia infantry on the final day of the Battle of Gettysburg. The "other half" of the assaulting force—Pettigrew's and Trimble's North Carolinians, Alabamians, Tennesseans, Mississippians, and a few more Virginians—get full coverage. Those interested in the pre-assault artillery bombardment will be delighted by the extensive attention given to that element of the fight. And, finally, General Winfield Scott Hancock's Union defenders finally receive the detailed examination they always have deserved. Wayne Motts, James Hessler, and Steven Stanley have done a masterful job!

• Carol Reardon, Penn State University, author of *A Field Guide to Gettysburg*

• The most famous infantry charge in American history finally has an excellent tour guide. Written by a pair of experienced historians and battlefield guides, and designed and mapped by one of the war's leading cartographers, it has everything a Civil War buff or visitor would want in walking in the footsteps of soldiers on both sides of that afternoon on July 3, 1863.

• Jeffry D. Wert, author of *Gettysburg, Day Three*

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

July Review, from *Civil War News*: Full disclosure: I am firmly in the camp of those who believe that far too much has been published about Gettysburg and who greet every new release with a large dose of skepticism. This extremely well-done book has convinced me that there is room for at least one more volume in the Gettysburg library. The book is designed as a tour guide to the area of the battlefield where the famous July 3, 1863, Confederate assault on the center of the Union line took place. The tour is divided into four separate sub-tours: the Confederate line; the route followed by

the divisions commanded by Johnston Pettigrew and Isaac Trimble; that followed by the division of George Pickett; and the Union defensive line. The heart of any tour guide is maps, and that feature is served up in exemplary fashion here. Highly regarded Civil War cartographer Steven Stanley has prepared 30 full-color maps, almost all at the regimental/battery level. The maps feature contour lines, although not the designated elevations or contour intervals, and vary in orientation between northerly, westerly, and easterly directions. The many relevant tour stops described in the text are keyed. Maps at the smaller scale contain a cone showing the 300-yard effective range of rifle-muskets used by virtually all Union troops defending the attack. There is far more here than just maps. The two text authors are licensed battlefield guides and the detail provided is immense and wide-ranging. Of course, the events of the attack, the preceding artillery exchange, and the successful Union defense are thoroughly covered. In addition, virtually every question and controversy which has arisen from this assault is scrutinized.

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